

Heroic Lessons Essay

How do stories of heroes and tragic heroes persuade their audiences to believe moral lessons appropriate to their historic context? Pick a specific fiction or non-fiction book or movie that features a hero or tragic hero to use as your third comparison.

Title	Primary hero's characterization	Moral lesson taught – reference specific details in the text	Historical context – why these lessons?
<i>The Odyssey</i>			
<i>Macbeth</i>			
Your choice			

Look for three points of comparison – consider the following:

What types of characters are featured?

How do the characters' lives reflect the lives of the main audience of the stories?

What is the cause of their situations?

What are the consequences of their actions?

How is the audience affected by their story?

Do different genres (oral epic poem, play, genre of your choice) affect the moral lesson?

Use these subtopics to structure your paragraphs rather than organizing paragraphs by one text at a time. Sequence the subpoints so that one leads to another, building momentum and bringing you to a clear statement of significance in the conclusion.

How do stories of heroes and tragic heroes persuade their audiences to believe moral lessons appropriate to their historic context?

INTRODUCTION:

BODY PARAGRAPH #1

CONTROLLING IDEA (subpoint 1):

TOPIC SENTENCE:

BODY PARAGRAPH #2

CONTROLLING IDEA (subpoint 2):

TOPIC SENTENCE:

BODY PARAGRAPH #3

CONTROLLING IDEA (subpoint 3):

TOPIC SENTENCE:

CONCLUSION

HEROES SYNTHESIS RUBRIC

Original Thinking:

- Formulates a thesis in response to question, clearly supporting thesis with subpoints
- Analyzes works in a significant, not superficial, way and avoids unnecessary plot summary

Support, Details, and Evidence:

- Uses sufficient detailed supporting examples and/or well-selected passages from three sources (*The Odyssey*, *Macbeth*, and one story of your choice)
- Uses correct parenthetical citations and includes MLA-formatted works-cited information

Organization and Clarity:

- Demonstrates structural unity (intro/body/conclusion, topic sentences, transitions) focusing on synthesis of ideas
- Demonstrates grammatical and mechanical accuracy; errors do not distract from meaning

Grading: A Work surpasses some/all criteria, demonstrates superior thoughtfulness

B Work capably meets all criteria

C Work meets some of the criteria

D/F Criteria has not been met